GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3441
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2002
RELEASE OF FUNDS
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether plan funds in crops and horticulture sectors are not being utilized fully and some State Agriculture Departments are not receiving funds from their respective State Finance Departments in time resulting in delay in completion of ongoing schemes;

(b) if so, the measures taken/proposed to be taken to ensure the release of funds to complete the ongoing schemes; and

(c) the States which lag behind in implementation of schemes?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): The Plan funds released and expenditure reported for the year 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes under implementation by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation were as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

	Releases	Expenditure	
1998-1999	827.89	742.32	
1999-2000	769.63	707.28	
2000-2001	747.54	655.07	(Provisional)

The reported expenditure over the last three years is reasonably satisfactory. However, some funds remain unspent with the States every year due to administrative delay in reaching the funds to implementing agencies, inability of the States to provide matching grants and funds released in the last quarter of the financial year.

(c): There are few States which are lagging behind in the implementation of CentrallySponsored Plan Schemes in Agriculture, namely, Assam, Bihar, Meghalaya, Manipur and Punjab.